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JURY CONVICTS BAHAMIAN MAN OF COCAINE IMPORTATION

Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that **Charles Alexander Bowe, age 34, of Nassau, Commonwealth of the Bahamas**, was convicted by a jury on August 3, 2005 in U.S. District Court, Savannah, Georgia. United States District Court Judge B. Avant Edenfield presided. Bowe was convicted on four counts related to the importation of eight kilograms of cocaine into the United States from the Bahamas on December 3, 2004. The drugs were seized at the Signature Air Facility at the Savannah International Airport after they were flown into Savannah aboard a private jetcraft. Bowe will be sentenced upon the completion of a pre-sentence investigation report. He is facing a term of imprisonment of not less than 10 years nor more than life.

Bowe was one of three defendants named in an indictment returned in this district on February 2, 2005. Defendant Damian Coverley pleaded guilty to a count charging conspiracy to import cocaine and is awaiting sentencing. The third defendant, Omar Theophilus, remains a fugitive.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Service. The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorneys Karl Knoche and Cameron Heaps Ippolito.

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